

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Withdrawn) A method of conducting service on a wind turbine after the wind turbine is erected and after a hub of the wind turbine is mounted on a main shaft of the wind turbine, said method comprising: mounting of servicing equipment including a crane on the hub of the wind turbine, and lowering and hoisting wind turbine appliances from and to the hub with said hub mounted servicing equipment including a crane.

2. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein the servicing equipment is mounted to an outside surface of the hub, and wherein appliances to be lowered from and hoisted to the hub are capable of being lowered and hoisted to the hub at a front of the hub.

3. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein the servicing equipment is mounted by means of already available holes, said holes formerly used for hoisting the hub to the main shaft of the wind turbine.

4. (Currently Amended) Equipment for servicing a wind turbine after a hub of the wind turbine has been mounted, ~~said equipment~~ comprising:

a crane for lowering and hoisting wind turbine appliances from and to the hub;
and

connecting means for primarily securing the equipment, including the crane, to an upwardly facing region of a curved surface of the hub, and receiving substantially the entire load of the crane thereon, the connecting means having a lower surface adapted to conform to the generally upwardly facing curved hub surface.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 4, further comprising fastening means for securing the equipment to already available holes, said holes formerly used for hoisting the hub to a main shaft of the wind turbine.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 5, where connecting means comprises a first connecting piece ~~intended for being configured to~~
be secured to the curved surface of the hub in a first set of already available holes.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 6, wherein the equipment is provided with a second connecting piece ~~intended for being configured to~~
be secured to the generally upwardly facing curved surface of the hub in a second set of already available holes.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 6, wherein the

first connecting piece is ~~intended~~ configured primarily for securing a crane, constituting part of the equipment, to the hub.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~ The equipment according to claim 7, wherein the second connecting piece is ~~intended~~ configured primarily for securing a gangway, constituting part of the equipment, to the hub.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~ The equipment according to claim 6, wherein said connecting piece for connecting the hub with the remainder of the equipment being provided with primary holes for inserting bolts to be secured to the existing holes in the hub and thereby securing the connecting piece to the hub, and said connecting piece also being provided with secondary holes for inserting bolts for securing the remainder of the equipment to the connecting piece.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~ The equipment according to claim 10, where a cavity is formed in a bottom of the connecting piece, said cavity being ~~intended~~ configured for containing a cement-like substance when the connecting piece is secured to the hub for conforming to the curved hub surface.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~ The equipment according to claim 11, where the cavity is delimited by a collar extending circumferentially along the bottom of the

connecting piece, and said collar limiting any flow from the cavity of the cement-like substance.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 10, wherein the connecting piece is provided with means for releasing adherence by a cement-like structure of the connecting piece to the hub.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 11, wherein the cavity is delimited by a disc-like member extending inside the connecting piece, and said disc-like member limiting any flow from the cavity of the cement-like substance.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 10, wherein the connecting piece comprises a flange extending circumferentially along the connecting piece, said flange being provided with means for securing the remainder of the equipment to the connecting piece.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 10, wherein the connecting piece is provided with an upper disc-like member and where guiding liners for bolts extend between the upper disc-like member and lower disc-like members.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 16, wherein the

guiding liners are positioned relative to each other in the connecting piece corresponding to a positioning of already available holes in the hub of the wind turbine.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 8, wherein said crane comprises primary holes for inserting bolts for securing the crane to the connecting piece and thus to the hub.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 18, where the crane is provided with a jib connected to a mast of the crane, and said jib being swivable around a substantially vertical hinged connection and said jib extending outwards in relation to the mast and forwards in relation to a direction being a forwards direction of the wind turbine when the crane is secured to the hub.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 19, where links are provided between the mast and the hinged connection, said links extending outwards in relation to the mast and forwards in relation to a direction being a forwards forward direction of the wind turbine when the crane is secured to the hub.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 20, where the links have a greater dimension at an end where the links are attached to the mast and have a smaller dimension at an end where the jib by means of the hinged connection is

attached to the links.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 20, wherein the links are made of a material less dense than steel.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~The equipment according to claim 18, wherein the jib has an I-shaped cross section or an inverted T-shaped cross-section and wherein wheels of a trolley are ~~intended for being~~ configured to be supported on a transversal ~~part~~ part of a profile.

24. (Withdrawn) Wind turbine comprising a hub wherein a surface of said hub includes holes initially used for attaching the hub to a crane used when erecting the wind turbine, and said holes subsequently intended for being used for securing service equipment to the surface of the hub; wherein the service equipment comprises a crane for lowering and hoisting wind turbine appliances from and to the hub and means for primarily securing the equipment, including the crane, to the hub.

25. (Withdrawn) Wind turbine according to claim 24, wherein the surface of said hub being provided with holes initially used for attaching the hub to a crane used, when erecting the wind turbine, and said holes subsequently intended for being used for securing service equipment to the surface of the hub.

26. (Withdrawn) A method of using holes in a surface of a hub in a wind turbine, comprising: locating holes initially having been used for attaching the hub to a crane used when erecting the wind turbine, and subsequently using said holes for securing service equipment to the surface of the hub.

27. (Currently Amended) Equipment for servicing a wind turbine after a hub of the wind turbine has been mounted, ~~said equipment~~ comprising:

a crane for lowering and hoisting wind turbine appliances from and to the hub;
and

connecting means for securing the equipment, including the crane, to ~~an upper region of the curved~~ a surface of the hub such that the connecting means receives substantially the entire load of the crane thereon, ~~said connecting means having a curved surface adapted to conform to the shape of the hub.~~

28. (New) Equipment for servicing a wind turbine after a hub of a wind turbine has been mounted, said equipment comprising:

a crane including a mast for lowering and hoisting wind turbine appliances from and to the hub,

wherein the mast of the crane is adapted to attach to an upwardly facing region of a curved surface of the hub such that the load of the crane is received thereon, and

Appln. Ser. No. 10/573,643
Response to April 25, 2011

the mast extends upwardly from the hub.